

Reflection on Technology Facilitator Standard VII:

Procedures, Policies, Planning, and Budgeting for Technology Environments

The standard discussed in this chapter of the text deals with the managing of and the technical side of providing high quality technology access for teachers and students. This is an important facet to technology leadership that many teachers are not aware of as being an issue. Technology leaders must choose the correct technology for campuses and classrooms and maintain this technology. They have to maintain it by giving professional development when needed, providing updates, and performing routine maintenance. The author mentioned how our schools are at an all time high of teacher and student ratios to computers. They have risen quite a bit from the 1990s when computers began to become and on demand commodity for each classroom. However, teachers still say that they are not provided with proper access to technology and they are frustrated. The author tended to focus on the provision of computers as being the reason for their frustration. I disagree with the author. In my experience, we are not frustrated with the lack of computers. We get frustrated with the lack of other technology. Our campus has just begun to get on board with the projector and document camera set ups in every classroom. Last year, I was still using an outdated overhead projector in my classroom. It's my hope that this standard will motivate my district and its leaders to get on board with the technology movement and provide us with the technology we so desperately need.

The text also mentioned that technology leaders have to consider budgets that include not only buying the technology, maintaining it, but also providing professional development. I believe teachers need to be well introduced and comfortable with what they are getting in their rooms. Much of our frustration also lies in that. We can't have things just thrown at us. They have to be explained so that we may use them to the best of our ability and impact students lives with it. Even now as I write this, I plan on asking my principal about providing training next year when we come back from the summer. Simple training on computer issues and how to use our projection systems. It puzzles me daily why we do not have more of the budget and time in development days allotted to this sort of thing instead of so much to athletics and such.